# The DX Bulletin

America's Oldest Weekly Amateur Radio Publication
 ISSUE 321 JANUARY 31, 1986

PROPAGATION: Jan 29, Low Normal; Jan 31-Feb 4, High Normal; Feb 5, Low Normal; Feb 6, High Normal; Feb 7, High/Above Normal; Feb 8, 9, High Normal; Feb 10, Low Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Flux (84)	Flux (85)	Date	Flux	A 1986—	К
160	158	143	101	77	1/17	77	7	1
167	173	139	98	77	1/18	76	8	2
171	175	132	98	77	1/19	73	3	2
167	173	125	97	78	1/20	72	11	3
162	169	120	97	91	1/21	70	15	3
161	159	117	107	87	1/22	70	13	3
162	153	119	114	88	1/23	69	17	2

## FROM KH6BZF REPORTS

SUNSPOT NUMBERS for the past year: Jan 1985, 16.5; Feb, 16.1; Mar, 11.9; Apr, 16.1; May, 27.4; Jun, 24.2; Jul, 30.8; Aug, 10.4; Sep, 13.9; Oct, 18.5; Nov, 16.6; Dec, 17.2. Lee says the predicted sunspot numbers for January to June 1986 are expected to drop from 10 in January to 5 in June.

LAST ISSUE we published a report that Stew Perry, WIBB, had died; we are happy to say that report was <u>in error</u> and that Stew is very much alive. The rumor apparently began in a publication of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). TDXB apologizes to Stew and to his family for this inexcusable error.



X4XKC visits with his QSL manager, KA1XN, in Western Massachusetts. Photo by WA1ZDE.

## NOTES

- $\bullet$  W8ZF signed PJ2FR back in the  $\underline{\text{CQ}}$  WW CW Contest, not P49Z as expected.
- W7ULC reports having worked 77 DXCC countries on 10 MHz. The Voice of America transmitter in Washington has been heard on 10.134 and 10.145 MHz.
- TAlE has been showing on 3594. Don't forget always to look for SSB DX anywhere between 3550 and 3750 (and for VU stations around 3890).
- The correct acronym for the Western Washington's DX Club's mini-contest (Issue 319) is NAANY, which stands for "Nightmare Alex's Alpha-Numeric Yearly" award.
- P29JS reportedly worked all 40 CO Zones after January 1 before leaving for Norfolk Island. If we know Jim, he will work all 40 again from VK9NS before long.
- ullet I5NPH is said to have a 3 element 80 Meter yagi on an 80-foot boom, 140 feet high. You can probably hear him.
- PJ2/WlBIH will sign PJ9J during the ARRL DX Contest, both modes. He used to be PJ9JT. KQ2M says he is bringing his P4 Aruba licensing paperwork back for Newingon to look at.
- E19FG/OD5 will be in Lebanon for three months; he's with the United Nations forces there.
- JH5EES goes to Marcus Island (Ogasawara) again early in February; he has been there several times the past six months or so but we have seen no reports on him from anywhere in North America.
- K2LE is on from St. Kitts as K2LE/V4 now to Feb 4; K4FW is reportedly on from Nevis as K4FW/V4, also.
- K2PK says he's still waiting for CEOAA cards, after almost 16 months. Best bet still seems to be via the Radio Club or CE3ESS.
- Despite political unrest in Uganda, 5X5GK continues active, almost exclusively on list operations. He will give you a CW contact, on request.
- K6HCV rumored to operate /J88 St. Vincent, starting Feb 10 for several weeks.
- The S90AS operators (Issue 320) are now on from Togo, signing 5V7AS for about two weeks; see S90AS in the Bandpass for spots they like to operate. They next go to Benin, TY, for another two weeks, starting Feb 5.
- ON4UN used his new U.S. extra class license to sign AA40I/PA from the Netherlands last week. John has an article in the latest issue of <u>Radiosporting</u>, and says his revised "80 Meter DXing" book should be published soon, in both English and German.
- In our 1985 summary (Issue 317/318) we said that the April 1985 Clipperton group did not go to Revilla Gigedo because a Mexican group had a license for the same time, but that the Mexican group did not operate. We were wrong ... the Mexicans were on, signing XF4MDX, for about 30 hours.
- N6EK/C6A will be on from the Bahamas Feb 13-16, including the ARRL DX CW Contest. He then goes to the Turks for N6EK/VP5 Feb 21-Mar 4, including the CQ 160 and ARRL DX Phone Contests. He will operate all bands in both the ARRL contests.

Copyright The DX Bulletin. The DX Bulletin (ISSN 0279-8077) is published fifty times per year. Subscription rates available upon request. The DX Bulletin is published at Burnap Brook Road, Andover, CT 06232: Second-class postage paid at Andover, CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The DX Bulletin,

## 1986 TEXAS ARMADILLO RUN SCHEDULED

JUST ONE YEAR AGO we announced that the Texas DX Society would be sponsoring another "Armadillo Run" this year, in honor of the Texas Sesquicentennial (150 years of statehood). The dates for the event have been announced: May 3/4 during the County Hunter's Phone Contest, and July 26/27 during the County Hunter's CW Contest.

The goal is to activate, over the two weekends, all 3077 counties in the U.S. Actually, there are only 3076 counties in the U.S., but Texas has declared the creation of an "Armadillo County" in honor of the Sesquicentennial. Governor Mark White proclaimed that from Mar 2 to Dec 31, 1986, amateurs operating along the Texas Independence Trail may state that they are operating from Armadillo County Texas.

Clubs are now being asked to contact the TDXS, namely Armadillo Run high almighty potentate K5RC, to offer their services for this formadible task. A number of regional coordinators have already signed up, but more are needed. An SASE to Tom Taormina, K5RC, 12610 Barbizon, Houston TX 77089, will get you more information and possibly a copy of the just-published first issue of the "Armadillo Press."

## NOTES

- Harry Perrine will operate KC2RS/VP5 Feb 13 to Mar 10, with side trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. He'll operate the CQ 160 Phone Contest Feb 21/23 and the ARRL DX Phone Contest from VP5.
- DX NL says that CEOERY's sons, CEOGYT and CEOGYS, are active from Easter Island; no reports here.
- YU3KI/5NO will be in Nigeria for several months, and is trying to get an antenna up for 160 Meters.
- DF6FK (one of the survivors of the Spratly expedition disaster in 1983) will sign T32BB until Feb 5.
- one of the No. Calif. DX Foundation's beacons (CT3B).

  40 Meters has been very good recently, and we heard
  CT3BZ running Europeans at 1800Z the other day; we
  could copy a gigantic pileup of Europeans at that time.

In fact, some on the East Coast have been working into Europe and Africa on 40 at high noon, 17002!

• DXPress has a rumor that VP8BFC is on his way to S. Georgia; CE9HOP is active from the S. Shetlands, and AZIA is finally appearing from the S. Orkneys, being reported on 14.175 at 0230Z and on 14.025 around 2300Z.

- G4IUF/C53 is on from the Gambia now until Feb 6
- Conditions for the  $\underline{CQ}$  160 Contest Jan 25/26 were very good, with many people working all continents, primarily thanks to 4X4NJ Asia contacts.
- W5YI Report notes that 1986 is the 50th anniversary of the 6L6 tube. This editor is not the only person whose first tramsmitter was a 6L6 oscillator (we built ours in 1961). Our rig used the ubiquitous power supply built from TV parts, a surplus output coil, and we had one crystal, for 7160. We worked 40 states with it before moving up to a DX-20.
- ... that reminds us of one long-standing joke around ARRL Headquarters: about the guy who built a TV set out of parts from old ham transmitters. But you probably had to be there.

Several years ago, TDXS put all 254 Texas counties on the air, on 20 CW, over a summer weekend; it was great fun trying to work them all, and the nationwide Armadillo Run looks to be one of history's great operating events. We plan to provide updates here, as things develop.

On a related note, February CQ records that All U.S.A. Counties Award #496 went to Charles Loftis, WDX4KEF, a shortwave listener. The All Counties Award is certainly an achievement, especially when you consider that only 500 have been issued, compared to thousands on the DXCC Honor Roll and thousands more having 5-Band DXCC. It must have been especially difficult to hear 3076 counties, not being able to transmit to make skeds, confirm information, etc. Congratulations, WDX4KEF!

## 28 MHZ BEACON BAND

## by Martin Atherton, G3ZAY

THE FUTURE of the 28 MHz beacon band has recently been discussed by the IARU Administrative Council. The emerging philosophy is that after 1/1/1990 beacons operating in the current band of 28.200 -.300 will no longer be protected by the band plan and a new protected beacon band of 28.190 -.200 will be phased in.

The aim is to develop a number of time-shared systems, similar to that currently operating on 14.100 MHz (NCDXF sponsored) with one frequency reserved for a worldwide chain, and the other frequencies (possibly with as little as 1 KHz channel spacing) used for regional chains.

There is clearly much merit in these proposals, as they make very efficient use of the band and release a substantial amount of "new" spectrum. However, disadvantages include:

- 1. Having to wait many minutes for a particular beacon that you are interested in to turn on.
- 2. Being unable to monitor a propagation path continuously.
- 3. CW filters will be needed to separate beacons if they are 1 KHz apart.
- 4. Beacons will be unable to fit lengthy information transmissions into their time slots.
- 5. Unsupervised beacons (e.g., VP8ADE on Adelaide Island) are difficult to maintain in terms of time and frequency tolerances.
- Expensive control equipment and possibly new transmitters will have to be found to replace existing beacons.

Are the emerging IARU proposals adequate or do we need a small additional sub-band for continuously operating beacons? For time sharing systems, what is the best combination of transmission time per beacon, and best number of beacons per channel? Please send your comments to  $\frac{\text{TDXB}}{\text{BOX}}$  or directly to Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, P0  $\frac{\text{BOX}}{\text{BOX}}$ 146, Cambridge, England.

### 160 METERS

UD6DC 1832 0215 21 MA UZ6LWZ 1839 2338 17 FL VP2VA 1833 0735 14 MA VP2VA 1833 0600 16 MA ZB2J 1836 0720 14 MA

P4DO 3794 0314 19 MA PJ2LS 3503 0624 18 FL

## 40 METERS

3B8CF 7008 0200 14 FL 4K1ZZ 7002 2100 14 MA 4X4NJ 7003 2223 17 MA

UZ9CWW 7005 1256 18 MA

4U1UN 14014 2012 18 FL 4U1UN 14025 1318 18 MA 5H3ZR 14007 1940 19 MA 5NO/YU3KI 14012 2105 18 MI TR8RAL 14160 2045 18 MA TU2CH 14014 1933 18 FL TU2CV 14015 1940 19 MA TU2OX 14010 1919 18 FL 5N8KBM 14186 2140 19 RI TZ6FE 14227 2247 13 NH

FR4ZD 14020 2030 18 AL OD5/EI9FG 14025 1530 20 MA P4/PA0FM 14156 2210 16 FL

9gstage .2.U First Class

.A .2 .U Andover, CT 06232

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

JEMBLE HILLS ND 20748 DA CIMALTINUH 1082 4 A LAUN, K320 (0986)

THE DX BULLETIN

CALENDAR

ISSUE 321

AFRICA	W6KG/W6QL at A25/W6KG; next stop unknown; left are 7Q,S8, ZE, 9J, and CR8 possible through April; QSL TO YASME.
ANTARCTICA	3Y9WT there now; I317
ARMADILLO RUN	In May and July; I321. More info K5RC.
ARUBA-P4	A new DXCC country beginning Jan 1;
2012 0012 0012	by K9VV group Feb (Issue 319).
BAHAMAS -C6A	BY N6EK FEB 13-16; I321
BENIN -TY	By S90AS Italian group starts Feb 5
CAMEROON-TJ	TJ1CH try 14.183 at 2000Z
CAMBODIA-XU	XUISS in JA, Europe, 0900Z
CAYMANS-ZF	ZF2HI for ARRL Phone; I319
CHAGOS	V09LD try 7005/1300Z long path
CHATHAM-ZL7	ZL7AA no reports recently 1/86
CHINA-BY	BY1QH, BY1SK active 20 SSB
CURACAO-PJ	PJ9J by WlBIH for ARRL Contest
CYPRUS BASES	ZC4HMS, ZC4ESB active; ZC4MR on with
	W7PHO, 14.225 at 1600Z
	ZC4MR now on 75 SSB
E CAROLINES -KC6	KC6JC back on Ponape, 20/40 M. by KZ5M in Feb; Issue 320
FALKLANDS -VP8	VP8BGO, VP8WTW active
FR JOSEF LAND	UV100, UA10T very active; Issue 319
GRENADA-J3	K4LTA group in Feb; 1320
GUINEA-BISSAU-J5	J5UAG active; need reports
IVORY COAST-TU	K1CTK likes 14.183 net at 1900Z
KERMADEC-ZM8	ZL80Y staying until Aug or Sept
LEBANON-OD	EI9FG/OD5 there several months
LORD HOWE-VK9	VK9NM by DJ5CQ until Feb, 1986
	he wants QSLs direct there, to Box 5, L.H. Island 2898, Australia
MADEIRA -CT3	CT3BZ by OHs, ends soon; I319 W2ZZ/CT3 there soon; I320
MALAGASY-5R	SR8AL try 20, 40 Meters SSB
	try Fri, 21.330, 16-17002

MAURITANIA 5T5SR on 15, 20 SSB and CW; QSL N4GND JTOXC (OKIXC) on now, low bands MONGOLIA-JT MONTSERRAT-VP2M K1LLN/VP2M Feb 24-Mar 1 OGASAWARA -JD JH5EES there on-and-off; no reports P.N.G.-P29 P29JS returns to VK9NS Jan 30; I316 S92LB on 14.183 2030-2330Z4 SAO TOME-S9 his QSLs are good for DXCC SO GEORGIA VP8BFC rumored; no reports SO ORKNEYS AZ1A on now Issue 321 ZXOECF reported in Europe SO SHETLANDS K2LE/V4 now to Feb 4; K4FW/V4 also ST KITTS ST VINCENT -J88 By K6HCV rumored starting Feb 10 6T2MG and 6T1YP active SUDAN-ST JW5VAA, JW5E, JW0A on; I310 SVALBARD-JW 5V7AS by S90AS group until Feb 4 TOGO -5V ZK3RW by ZL1AMO in March; 1314 TOKELAUS-ZK3 TONGA-A35 A35WZ by NC7K starts Feb 13; I319 FR7AI probable for Feb; 1320 TROMELIN TURKS -VP5 By N6EK FEB 21-MAR 4; 1321; BY KC2RS FEB 13-MAR 10; 1321 TAIE on 75; see Bandpass TURKEY-TA VIETNAM-XV KM1R rumored there next month; I320 By KZ5M in Feb; I320 W CAROLINES W KIRIBATI -T32 T32BB by DF6FK now to Feb 5 With 4X4NJ, 1400Z, Saturday, 14.337 Info 1900-2000 KHz, I310 160 METER NET CONTESTS CQ 160 SSB FEB 21-23

ARRL DX CW FEB 15/16

ARRL DX PHONE MAR 1/2